

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 03/08/11

SPONSOR Ortiz y Pino LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Instructional Support Providers Study SJM 36

ANALYST Haug

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY11	FY12	FY13	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>		See Narrative				

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Joint Memorial 36 requests that the Public Education Department be requested to expand the membership of the Related Services Advisory Council to allow for representation of all of the professions that are instructional support providers and that the Related Services Advisory Council work with professional organizations representing instructional support providers in New Mexico to develop and formalize an interdisciplinary process to identify and report aggregated outcome data on the effectiveness of instructional support providers from the public education department's data system and statewide policies related to assessments, service delivery and workload of instructional support providers.

In addition the Related Services Advisory Council would be charged with working with leadership in New Mexico teachers unions in developing the process for reporting data on the effectiveness of instructional support providers and that the Related Services Advisory Council examine appropriate standardized measurement instruments for the collection of aggregate instructional support provider data across the state when developing the process for reporting data on the effectiveness of instructional support providers.

Furthermore, based on the process developed to identify and report the data on the effectiveness of instructional support providers, the Related Services Advisory Council would examine regulatory and statutory changes that define evidence-based protocols for services performed by instructional support providers, the public education department would be given quarterly reports from the Related Services Advisory Council on issues related to instructional support providers in New Mexico and finally the Related Services Advisory Council would report to the Legislative Education Study Committee by October 15, 2011.

## **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

Senate Joint Memorial 36 would require allocation of staff and resources on the part of the departments charged with conducting the study. The demands placed on the department should be modest in impact.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

Instructional support providers provide services for New Mexico public schools and state institutions and include educational assistants, school counselors, school social workers, school nurses, speech-language pathologists, psychologists, physical therapists, physical therapy assistants, occupational therapists, marriage and family therapists, occupational therapy assistants, recreational therapists, signed language interpreters, educational, alcohol and drug abuse counselors, substance abuse associates and others who are employed to support the instructional program of a school district or charter school.

In 2007, the public education department formed the Related Services Advisory Council to serve as a liaison to the special education and licensure bureaus of the public education department and to advise those bureaus on concerns related to licensure and service delivery models for instructional support providers and provide technical assistance in the development of associated policy and state rules.

The Related Services Advisory Council's stated vision is to seek to improve the quality and appropriate delivery of instructional support services in New Mexico.

The Related Services Advisory Council membership does not represent all of the varied professions that are instructional support providers, and the council does not examine the effectiveness of instructional support providers in New Mexico.

The public education department manages a data system that collects and reports information on instructional support services and how those services affect the education of New Mexico's students, but data regarding the effectiveness of instructional support providers is not available in any meaningful way to the providers, which limits the providers' ability to demonstrate their effectiveness.

GH/mew